

## **News Release**

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## Retired Kenmore physician's medical license immediately suspended

Doctor's mental state and substance misuse makes him unsafe to practice medicine, charges say

**OLYMPIA** — Based on charges of misuse of prescription narcotics and mental incapacity, the Medical Quality Assurance Commission has immediately suspended the medical license of retired Kenmore physician Paul L. Allen (MD00009164).

Although he is retired from practicing medicine, the charges say Allen uses his medical license to order large quantities of narcotics from wholesale suppliers. In August, Allen was hospitalized for a drug overdose after taking narcotics. The commission alleges Allen's access to wholesale narcotics puts him and the public at risk, because he cannot safely administer narcotics to himself or anyone else.

Allen cannot practice medicine in Washington until the allegation of mental incapacity is resolved. He has 20 days to respond to the charges and to request a hearing.

Legal documents in this case are available by calling 360-236-4700 or online by clicking the link to "Provider Credential Search" on the <u>agency home page</u> (www.doh.wa.gov).

The Medical Quality Assurance Commission promotes patient safety and enhances the integrity of the medical profession through licensing, discipline, rule-making and education.

The <u>Department of Health website</u> (www.doh.wa.gov) is your source for *a healthy dose of information*. Also, <u>find us on Facebook</u> and <u>follow us on Twitter</u>.

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